

Every Child Reads - Infant-Toddler Modules Train the Trainer Professional Development Final Report

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An Early Literacy Work Group, consisting of representatives of child care resource and referral, area education agencies, parents as Teachers, Early ACCESS, and the Department of Education, developed training modules to assist early care and education staff in enhancing the early language skills of infants and toddlers in their care. These training modules align with the Iowa Early Learning Standards, the proposed Quality Program Standards for Infants and Toddlers, and Every Child Reads: 3 – 5. The five training modules are:

- Foundations of Early Literacy: Birth to Three
- How Infants and Toddlers Learn Language and Literacy
- Engaging in Conversations with Infants and Toddlers
- Reading with Infants and Toddlers Using Interactive Strategies
- Follow-up module: Selecting Quality Books for Infant and Toddlers

Each module includes trainer notes, trainer scripts, participant handouts, "Back at Work" assignments, and reflection forms. There are also supplemental trainer materials, a power point, and DVD clips.

On September 21st, 68 early care and education staff, representing Early ACCESS, AEAs, child care resource and referral agencies, Early Head Start, ISU Extension, and community colleges, received training on the modules. The participants are required to conduct at least one 16 – hour training by June 30, 2012. The development of the training modules, including all materials, and the Train the Trainer training on the modules were funded through IDEA Part C ARRA funds.

Submitted by Mary Schertz, Early Childhood Services Consultant